

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01 AF-10

/178 W

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R 141350Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5599

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L VALLETTA 1033

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, MT

SUBJ: ENERGY: TEXACOA-GOM AGREEMENT

REF: VALLETTA 0979

1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS SECRETARY MAURICE ABELA JUNE 14 PROVIDED US WITH A FEW MORE DETAILS TEXACO CONTRACT AND FUTURE STEPS.

2. ABELA SAID TEXACO HAS CONTRACTED TO BEGIN DRILLING WITHIN TWO YEARS. FIRST STEP WILL BE FURTHER SEISMIC STUDIES TO REFINE EXISTING DATA IN TEXACO AREA. TEXACO HAS SAID IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE AN OIL RIG FROM THE NORTH SEA DURING THE WINTER WHEN WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE AT WORST IN THAT AREA.

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3. MEANWHILE, TEXACO WILL PROCEED WITH FEASIBILITY

STUDIES FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT. AREAS SO FAR IDENTIFIED ARE CONSTRUCTION OF DRILLING PLATFORMS AND MINING MACHINERY FOR SUCH MATERIALS AS COAL AND BAUXITE.

4. LASTLY, ABELA SAID AGIP AND AQUITAINE ARE PRESENT LEADERS FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRACTS. THEIR NEGOTIATIONS MAY BE DELAYED BECAUSE, UNLIKE TEXACO, THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT BEFORE SIGNING CONTRACT RATHER THAN AFTER. GETZ

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Message Attributes

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